



# **COPS** *Fact Sheet*

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov)

## *COPS Tribal Resources Grant Program*

### *Background*

*"WE WILL MODERNIZE OUR  
COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND BUY  
EQUIPMENT FOR VEHICLES, ADD TWO  
OFFICERS AND PROVIDE MORE  
TRAINING. FOR A SMALL  
DEPARTMENT THESE GRANTS ARE  
ESSENTIAL."*

*POLICE CHIEF RICK NORRIS*

*WASHOE TRIBE (NV)*

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) created a series of programs to meet the needs of law enforcement in Native American communities. These programs include the Tribal Resources Grant Program (TRGP), Tribal Hiring Renewal Grant Program (THRGP), and Tribal Mental Health and Community Safety Initiative (TMHCSI). COPS Native American programs address quality-of-life issues as well as a comprehensive list of law enforcement expenses, including hiring and training new community policing officers, training existing forces, purchasing new equipment and vehicles, and more. COPS has awarded more than \$200.7 million since 1999 to help Native American communities, many of which have limited resources and suffer from high rates of crime and violence, hire more than 1,587 new community policing officers. In FY03 COPS will be awarding an additional \$35 million through TRGP to bolster community policing and homeland security within Native American communities.

### *Funding Provisions*

Grant requests should reflect the most serious law enforcement needs of an agency that are not funded with state, local, or Bureau of Indian Affairs funds and be linked to the implementation or enhancement of community policing. Funding provisions under TRGP include three years of entry-level salary and benefits for newly hired, additional law enforcement officers, as well as funding for law enforcement training, basic standard issue equipment, uniforms, departmentwide technology, and police vehicles.

Funds are also available for law enforcement training and equipment for existing officers, depending on the needs of the department and subject to funding availability. Training includes basic and specialized police training at a Regional Community Policing Institute, a state academy, or the Indian Police Academy in Artesia, New Mexico, as well as grants management and computer training.

Departments are also encouraged to request funding for other types of departmentwide law enforcement equipment and technology, such as police vehicles, computer hardware and software, mobile data terminals, and dispatch and communication systems. Tribes are encouraged to request equipment that will increase their ability to collect crime data. TRGP covers a maximum federal share of 75 percent of total project costs, including approved salary and benefits of new,

additional entry-level police officer positions (up to a maximum of \$75,000 per officer over three years), basic law enforcement training and equipment, vehicles, and technology. There is a requirement that any additional officer positions funded under the grant must be retained for at least one full local budget cycle with local (non-COPS) funds after the expiration of federal funding. The program includes a local cash match requirement of 25 percent of total project costs. Waivers of the local match requirement may be granted only on the basis of a documented fiscal hardship. Waiver requests must be made at the time of application.

### ***Initiative to Improve Law Enforcement in Tribal Communities***

TRGP is part of a larger federal initiative. For the last five years, the Departments of Interior and Justice have worked together to improve law enforcement in tribal communities. For FY 2003, funds were appropriated to several Department of Justice (DOJ) agencies for this initiative, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the COPS Office. COPS coordinates with these agencies as well as with the Office of Law Enforcement Services of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to ensure that limited resources are not spent on duplicative efforts.

COPS offers a variety of publications, products, and training opportunities to advance community policing and support its grant programs. COPS publications and products offer insights and experiences from others in the field addressing specific problems including:

- ✓ Creative Partnerships: Supporting Youth, Building Communities
- ✓ Law Enforcement Technology Guide: How to plan, purchase and manage technology (successfully!)
- ✓ Bringing Victims into Community Policing

COPS also sponsors training opportunities and conferences to give law enforcement professionals an opportunity to learn, network, and exchange ideas. All COPS publications and training opportunities are posted at COPS Online at [www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov).

### ***Requirements***

Federal regulations require that financial assistance provided by the federal government be monitored to ensure that funds are used properly. In addition to the retention requirement that applies to all COPS hiring programs, supplanting is prohibited under this program. Any use of TRGP funds is required to be in addition to, and not in lieu of, previous funding commitments for law enforcement staffing, training, and/or equipment.

### ***FY 2003 Application Deadlines***

In late February 2003, the COPS Office was authorized almost \$35 million for Indian Country grants to be awarded in FY 2003. Applications will be available at COPS Online ([www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov)) in early April, enabling interested parties to download the application. Application kits can also be obtained through the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center.

**There is only one deadline, May 30, 2003, for this solicitation.** All applications must be postmarked on or before that date to receive consideration. Applications postmarked after that date will not be reviewed. All grant awards are subject to the availability of funding.

### ***Contact COPS***

For more information on TRGP please contact the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 800.421.6770, or visit COPS Online at [www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov).